King James Bible Study Correspondence Course An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries 5311 Windridge Iane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

> Joshua Lesson 8B Step out & Follow me

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You must read Joshua Lesson 8A to understand completely the subject of the sanctification of your spirit of which we are trying to make implicitly clear.

Ephesians 4:26. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Have you ever said something like this to yourself? "Boy, he really made me mad – but I am not going say anything... I am just going to take it." Okay, that is a whole lot better than getting into a big fight and saying things you will regret later. Get your anger under control. Let's finish the verse, if the sun goes down and you are lying in bed still thinking about that offence that made you mad thinking "I hope that guy gets what he's got coming to him for offending me", if I was God I would make him pay for mistreating one of God's children" Do you know what the Lord said? It is right for you to control that anger. It will keep that body sanctified. Now God wants your spirit sanctified. God wants you to root out the results of that anger, to root out the outworking of that offense. God wants you to get that thing out of your life before the **devil** gets a hold of you. The person you are angry and bitter towards is not even thinking about you. You are the only one who is suffering in this scenario because the sun sets every night on your wrath. Your bodies are under control; so you are not doing anything about it. But your spirit is not under control and it is eating you alive. Do you know what the Lord said? I want your spirit sanctified. Holding grudges for years are proof your spirit is not sanctified. You say, you have prayed about it a few time, but the thought of the hurt keeps coming back, so I just gave up. Because God did not fix it as quick as you wanted it - or maybe you do not want Him to fix it.

Do you want to follow that ark into the Promised Land? You are going to have to sanctify yourself. You might have to pray about this more than twice! You might have to repent of something two or three times. You might just have to stay after God every single time the sun goes down... until He helps you get that wrath out of your heart. Or you can just do nothing about it and keep marching around the wilderness with three or four friends that see things your way.

You are not spiritual; you may have your body under control. You may be able to keep your tongue from lashing out, all that is good, but not good enough in God's eyes. All of us want God's rich, full blessings on our life; God says it going to take sacrifice in your life.

E.A Hoffmann wrote a song in 1900, which defines exactly what we are trying to covey here.

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"Is your all on the Altar?"

You have longed for sweet peace And for faith to increase, And have earnestly, fervently prayed; But you cannot have rest; Or be perfectly blest, Until all on the altar is laid.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more; This is a good step in the right direction not to take money, property or things from somebody else. My body is under control – my hands are no longer picking pockets. My feet are no longer entering homes robbing the owners. All that is good but it is not good enough. Let him that stole steal no more; but <u>rather</u> let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. God said it is good that you quit stealing but now I want you to get a job. Please understand it is not even about getting a job. It is about God changing my spirit so I do not want anything from you; I want to be able to give to you.

Ephesians 4:29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth...* You may control – no more dirty stories, no more cuss words, no more profanity. That is great there should **never** be a curse word spoken by a saved person. (James 3:11) There should never be a nasty tale told by a saved person. God says, "okay, all that is good; but let's go farther than that." *...but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.* I did not say anything nasty to you; nor did I say anything worth hearing! What are the topics of your conversation? Do you talk about other people, lost people do that. Remember the ole saying "if you have nothing nice to say about someone, do not say anything at all. "When saved people are with saved people we ought to be conversing about that which will fill our hearts with more of God's grace. We should be encouraging one another about the things pertaining to the grace of God. The Lord said: I want you talking about the right things, things that will help, things that will boost, things that will edify, things that will strengthen"

Ephesians 4:30-31, *And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.* (Look, that sanctification of the soul is taken care of.) *31. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:* My tongue is under control. That is sanctification of the body. God said, How about we go farther?

Ephesians 4:32 *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...* Do you know what God wants me to do? He does not want me to just not to retaliate; He wants me to treat you like there was never anything over which to retaliate from. He does not want me to just refrain from getting even; He wants me to treat you as though there were no cause to get even. That is probably the



toughest thing God could ask me to do, to be injured but unaffected, to be harmed but unchanged, to be unloved but yet loving. That is probably the most difficult thing any human being in a body of flesh could do? So you know what the Lord said – He said, you better sanctify that spirit. You better take your emotions, desires, reactions, thoughts, wants and give them all to Jesus Christ and let Him lead you the way through.

The Bible says in this verse, *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...* (Let's not stop till we see the whole verse) *...even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.* When you and I got saved, the Lord just didn't forgive our sins, He has since treated us with kindness a tender heart as though He was not even effected by what we did to Him. It is like He is not even holding it against us, not looking for a chance to get even... you would almost think as far as God was concerned all of the offenses we did to Him, never even happened. You know what He says? I want your clothes right, your habits right, I want the places you go to be right, outward deeds of your flesh to be right. When you get all that done we still have some cleaning to do on the inside. Until you can go beyond just not doing what is wrong and get into the realm of from your heart treating others the way God the Father and God the Son treat you, we have a ways to go.

It is easier to quit smoking than to get out of the habit of being bitter toward people that have hurt you. You better sanctify that spirit or you will be an unfulfilled, angry, bitter, unhappy Christian each time you think about that subject or person all the days of your life. The Lord's hope and prayer is that we be sanctified. He took care of the soul; He will assist us with the sanctification of the body. He will assist with the sanctification of the spirit, but you are going to have to initiate the process, you must take the first step.

If you bow you head right now and ask God to bring someone to mind that you are bitter towards, He will, then you take that step, repent of that bitterness, ask God for forgiveness and ask Him to fill you with His love for that person. Do you really want God's full power? God's full blessing? You have to sanctify yourself. You are going have to just push some things away and say, I do not want to be a part of that anymore. I want God. I do not want to hang on to that anymore. I want the Lord. Why are you holding on to something that is messing you up? Why hold on to something that is eating your guts?

To sanctify – just push away from it. Draw nigh to God. (James 4:8)



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Name

(*) if asterisk is shown in question, scripture is required along with answer in your own words.

- 1. Who is suffering from a person who has done you wrong?
- 2. When Christians get together what should they talk about?
- 3. Who is most pleased when a Christian is bitter?
- 4. Why should a Christian never cuss or use profanity?*
- 5. What did we learn from E.A. Hoffmann's song?
- 6. You may have stopped being a thief, but you are still needing something else, what is that something?*
- What are the five things God expects to see in a Christian's life?
 a.
 - b.
 - C.
 - d.
 - e.



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- 8. How can I sanctify my spirit?
- 9. What does God want me to do rather than retaliate?
- 10. Who do you follow to get into the Promise land?

True/false

- God wants me to hold anger in so I will be stronger.
- God wants your spirit to be sanctified.
- The devil is happy when we are bitter toward people that have offended us.
- Never let the sun go down on your anger.



in KJV) Ephesians 4:28; Ephesians 4:32; James 3:11.

any questions?